



How Educators are Involved in Designing TNReady

Tennessee educators – both at the K-12 and higher education levels – were significantly involved in the selection process and chose an assessment that is both fully aligned to the state's academic standards but also adaptable to future improvements.

Moving forward, the design of TNReady, like all assessments in Tennessee, will continue to include significant educator involvement at every juncture: item development and review, scoring, and proficiency cut score determination. Tennessee educators will also decide on changes to the test based on any changes to the standards.

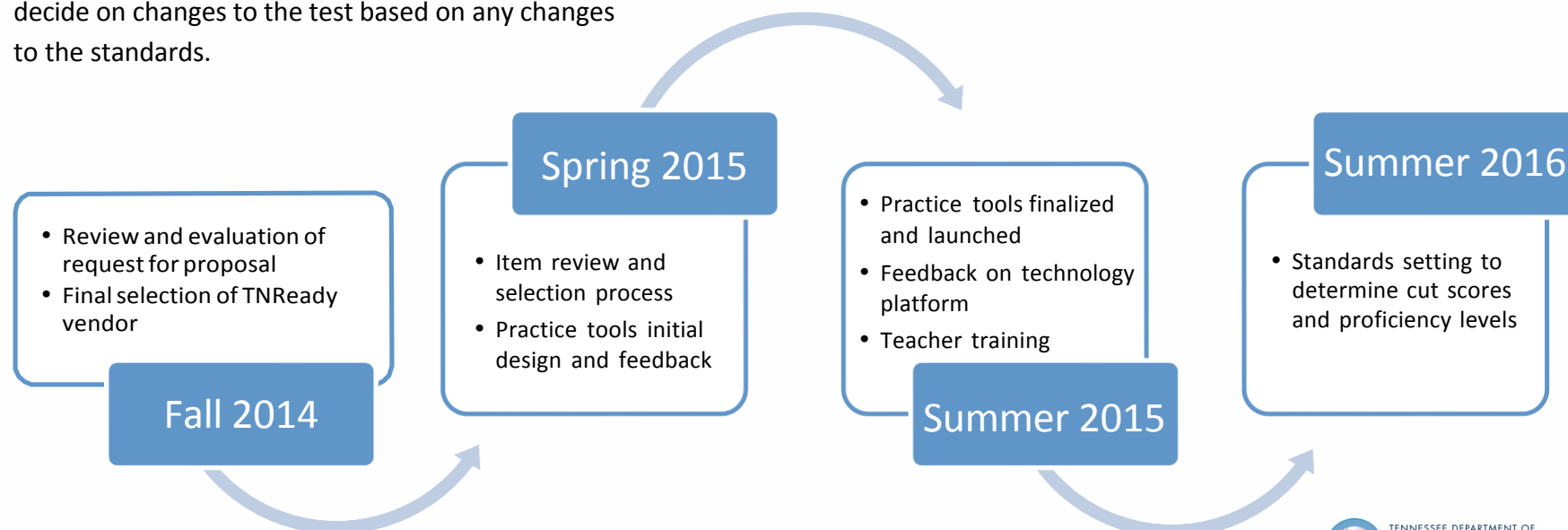
Who's involved?

Educators of all roles and backgrounds will be included: K-12

- Math, English language arts, and special education teachers
- District instructional supervisors and special education directors
- Directors of Schools
- Additional school-based staff (e.g. librarians, media specialists, guidance counselors)

Post-secondary

- Higher education faculty and representatives





Frequently Asked Questions

Who is writing the TNReady test questions?

As with previous state assessments like TCAP, the questions are written by the vendor selected through the competitive bidding process. Test questions are written by assessment professionals who are trained in how to write questions that are accessible to students and reflect the content of the standards. The test questions are then reviewed by Tennessee teachers and rewritten to ensure their feedback is incorporated.

How do we know that questions are appropriate?

Tennessee educators review the questions for instructional content and for bias and sensitivity to ensure that they don't disadvantage any group of students. For the first year of TNReady, we will use test questions that have already been field tested in other states, so that we can be confident of the quality of questions. Each test question will be reviewed by no fewer than six Tennessee teachers and will be revised based on their feedback.

How are Tennessee educators selected to participate in reviewing test questions?

We chose Tennessee educators to serve as item reviewers through a highly selective competitive process. Item reviewers were chosen from every region of the state, representing 78 districts.

How are Tennessee educators involved in scoring TNReady?

Tennessee teachers will determine proficiency levels (such as basic, proficient, and advanced) for each grade level and subject area. Educators will be selected for this role through a highly selective competitive process. This mirrors the process used to determine proficiency levels on TCAP. Additionally, Tennessee teachers will participate in a process, called rangefinding, in which educators score student essays and develop training materials that the vendor will use to train and evaluate their scorers.

What resources will teachers and schools have to prepare for TNReady?

- This spring teachers will have access to examples of the types of questions that will be asked, and next school year full practice tests will be available.
- The department will hire top Tennessee teachers to teach their peers about the new assessment during summer training.
- Teachers will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the practice tools during the spring and summer.

What resources will be available to the parents and the public?

Parents and the public will be able to review and practice with a sample set of test questions online.